

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

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S E C R E T USNATO 1729

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: INFORMAL TURKISH COMMENTS ON PARA 30 MEASURES
AND IMPLICATIONS OF INCLUDING F-4 AIRCRAFT IN ANY NUCLEAR
PACKAGE

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

REF: A) STATE 56461 B) USNATO 1563

SUMMARY: IN PRIVATE CONVERSION WITH MISSION OFFICER MARCH 28,
TURKISH DCM TULUMEN PROPOSED THAT SOLUTION TO PARA 30 MEASURES
PROBLEM MIGHT BE FOR ALLIES TO PROPOSE A FREEZE ON SOVIET FORCES
IN THE THREE WMDS IN EXCHANGE FOR KNOWN SOVIET DESIRE TO
IMPOSE A FREEZE ON EUROPEAN FORCES. TULUMEN ASKED FOR WASHINGTON'S
REACTION TO THIS PROPOSAL. IN RELATED POINT HE EXPRESSED CONCERN
THAT IF F-4 AIRCRAFT WERE TO BE INCLUDED IN AN
ALLIES NUCLEAR PACKAGE, A CEILING ON SUCH AIRCRAFT OCCURRING
IN CENTRAL EUROPE MIGHT INDUCE SOVIETS TO PRESS FOR SIMILAR
CEILINGS IN FLANK COUNTRIES. IN VIEW OF INTENDED TURKISH
SECRET

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ACQUISITION OF F-4S THROUGH FMS, TULUMEN WISHED TO DRAW
WASHINGTON'S ATTENTION TO PROBLEMS FOR THE FLANKS WHICH ANY
INCLUSION OF F-4S IN MBFR COULD BRING ABOUT. ACTION REQUESTED:
WASHINGTON'S REACTION TO TURKISH THINKING. END SUMMARY

1. AS PART OF OUR EFFORT TO SET STAGE FOR PUTTING FORWARD U.S. REF A CONTRIBUTION ON FLANK SECURITY AT NEXT SPC MEETING, MISSION OFFICER CALLED ON TURKISH DCM TULUMEN TO GUAGE LATEST THINKING ON PARA 30 MEASURES NOW THAT MBFR WG PAPER HAS BEEN CIRCULATED (TEXT REF B).

2. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT HAVE SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FROM ANKARA, TULUMEN HINTED THAT HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO DROP FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF MEASURES 1 AND 2 BUT THAT HE WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO MAKE A PITCH FOR ALLIED CONSIDERATION OF MEASURE 3. (THIS COINCIDES WITH OBSERVATIONS MADE BY TURKISH MBFR WG REP REPORTED IN USNATO 1455.) MISSION OFFICER RECALLED THAT HE HAD ALREADY SPOKEN AGAINST MEASURES 1 AND 2 IN SPC, LARGELY BECAUSE OF THE RECIPROCITY QUESTION. SINCE RECIPROCITY WOULD ALSO ARISE IF ALLIES PUT MEASURE 3 FORWARD, HE WAS SURE THAT U.S. WOULD BE UNABLE TO ACCEPT SUCH A PROPOSAL SHOULD TURKS PUT IT FORWARD IN SPC.

3. TULUMEN SAID THAT TURKISH DEL HAD BEEN CONSIDERING A FORMULA BASED ON MEASURE 3 WHICH IT THOUGHT MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE TO ANKARA. ALTHOUGH HE HAD NO SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS PROPOSAL HE SAID IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO KNOW WASHINGTON'S REACTION TO IT. PROPOSAL IS THAT SINCE SOVIETS ARE EAGER TO IMPOSE A FREEZE ON EUROPEAN FORCES, -ALLEGEDLY TO ENHANCE STABILITY DURING ANY U.S./SOVIET WITHDRAWALS-WOULD U.S. BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER SUCH A FREEZE IN CONJUNCTION WITH A COUNTERPROPOSAL TO FREEZE SOVIET FORCES IN THE 3 WMDS? ALLIES COULD ARGUE THAT SUCH A FREEZE WOULD NOT ONLY REINFORCE SECURITY IN WESTERN EUROPE, BUT WOULD ALSO PROVIDE ASSURANCE TO PARTICIPANTS WITH SPECIAL STATUS (E.G., THE FLANKS). U.S. REP OBSERVED THAT PROJECTED FREEZE WOULD APPLY TO FORCES OTHER THAN THOSE WITHDRAWN AND THUS APPEARED TO GO EVEN FURTHER THAN THE INTENT OF MEASURE III. IN ADDITION TO THIS FACTOR, U.S. WOULD PROBABLY HAVE DIFFICULTY IF SUCH A MEASURE WERE APPLIED RECIPROCALLY.

4. TULUMEN EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING FOR POINT, BUT SAID HE WOULD NEVERTHELESS APPRECIATE WASHINGTON'S REACTION.

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CONCLUDING DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT, HE SAID THAT SINCE U.S. HAD NOT COMMENTED ON MEASURES 3 THROUGH 6 ESPECIALLY MEASURE 3- HE HOPED THAT WASHINGTON MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE VIEWS. MISSION OFFICER PROMISED TO REPORT TULUMEN'S COMMENTS TO WASHINGTON.

5. TULUMEN THEN RAISED QUESTION OF WHAT HAD TRANSPIRED DURING MARCH 18 TRILATERALS, TO WHICH MISSION OFFICER GAVE STANDARD REPLY (PER USNATO 1624). TULUMEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT TURKISH DEL WAS CONCERNED WHETHER F-4 AIRCRAFT WOULD BE INCLUDED IN ANY NUCLEAR PACKAGE WHICH MIGHT BE PUT FORWARD TO THE EAST. WHILE THIS PROBABLY MEANT ESTABLISHING A CEILING FOR SUCH AIRCRAFT IN THE CENTRAL REGION, WHICH WAS ONLY OF

INDIRECT CONCERN TO TURKEY, IT COULD ALSO CREATE A SITUATION WHEREBY SOVIETS COULD PUT PRESSURE ON THE FLANKS TO HOLD DOWN THEIR AIRCRAFT LEVELS OF THE SAME TYPE. SUCH A SITUATION WOULD GIVE TURKS CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY SINCE THEY WERE CONTEMPLATING ACQUISITION OF F-4S AIRCRAFT UNDER FMS CREDIT ARRANGEMENTS. TULUMEN THEREFORE HOPED THAT WASHINGTON WOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THESE CONCERNS, AND BEAR IN MIND THAT INCLUSION OF PHANTOMS IN A NUCLEAR PACKAGE COULD GIVE TURKEY SPECIAL PROBLEMS.
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